

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern: ..... Application No  
PCT/GB2004/004189

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01N33/18

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01N C02F C12Q C12M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 569 596 A (MCINERNEY MICHAEL J ET AL) 29 October 1996 (1996-10-29) column 2, line 61 - line 65 column 3, line 14 - line 17 column 5, line 42 - line 52 -----	1-21
Y	EP 0 682 244 A (ANJOU RECH) 15 November 1995 (1995-11-15) column 1, line 4 - line 6 column 6, line 17 - line 23 column 9, line 4 - line 11 column 12, line 4 - line 10 -----	1-21
A	US 2003/027241 A1 (APPLEGATE BRUCE M ET AL) 6 February 2003 (2003-02-06) paragraph [0062]; claims 7,8 ----- -/-	1,8-11, 17,19

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*"I" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*"A" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

10 December 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

12.03.2005

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 85/01579 A (UNIV SURREY) 11 April 1985 (1985-04-11) page 42, line 4 - page 44, line 1 -----	1,15,20
A	GB 2 034 032 A (LINSMITH M; THAMES WATER AUTHORITY) 29 May 1980 (1980-05-29) page 1, line 52 - line 62 page 3, line 2 - line 11; figure 1 -----	1-7
A	EP 0 773 298 A (NALCO CHEMICAL CO) 14 May 1997 (1997-05-14) figures 3,4 -----	1-21

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International application No.  
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## Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
  
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
  
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-21

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-21

Vessel containing bacteria protected by a semi-permeable membrane.

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2. claims: 22-28

Detection device arranged to measure the optical density (and/or turbidity) and fluorescence.

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3. claims: 29-43

Container for one or more vessels.

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5569596	A	29-10-1996	US 5739028 A	14-04-1998
EP 0682244	A	15-11-1995	FR 2719905 A1	17-11-1995
			EP 0682244 A1	15-11-1995
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			EP 0158662 A1	23-10-1985
			WO 8501579 A1	11-04-1985
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			FR 2437620 A1	25-04-1980
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			DE 69606378 01	02-03-2000
			DE 69606378 T2	06-07-2000
			EP 0773298 A1	14-05-1997
			ES 2143722 T3	16-05-2000